



SPAR eNEWS

"Know the Happenings in Shreveport's Public Assembly and Recreation Department"

March Issue

Volume 2. Issue 3

March 2009

Recreation



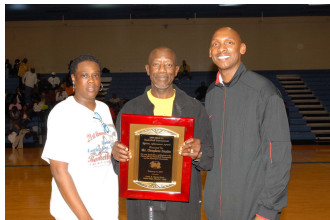
SPAR congratulates our Assistant Director, Patrick Wesley, who was sworn in on January 27, 2009, as President of the Louisiana Recreation and Parks Association (LRPA). Patrick's goals for the 2009-2010 term

include increasing memberships; promoting parks and recreation in rural communities; and establishing and maintaining collaborations to address youth obesity.

Athletics

SPAR concluded its 21st Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Basketball Tournament with a Championship Sunday on February 15, 2009 at Southern University Shreveport. The tournament attracted teams in the adult, youth and wheel-chair divisions from as far away as Dallas, Houston, Mobile, and Jackson.

The winners of the championship games: Pro Am - 3rd Coast Ballers from Brazoria, TX; Men - Nasty Boyz from Shreveport, LA; Wheel Chair - San Antonio Parasports Spurs from San Antonio, TX; Youth - 10 & Under Bill Cockrell Gators; 12 & Under - La-All-Starz; 15 & Under - Red River.



Mr. Cleophus Banks, one of the founders of the MLK Jr. Basketball Tournament, was presented with the MLK Jr. Basketball Tournament Lifetime Achievement Award during half time of the Pro Am Championship game.

2009 Spring Softball

Team Entry Deadline March 20
Roster Addition Deadline March 27
Coaches Meeting April 2
Seasons Begins April 6

2009 COED Summer Basketball

Anyone interested playing a team in this league please contact Mary Murphy at 318-673-7776.

SPAR Pottery Classes



SPAR offers pottery classes to the public. The classes are held at Wildwood Park, 7401 Jewella Avenue. The pottery classes are taught by experienced potters and provide the essential tools needed for pottery including kiln, potter's wheel, etc. SPAR has a newly designed and fully equipped potter's studio where the classes are held. Pottery is one of the world's oldest crafts. For more information, contact Jan Hirsch (Tues & Thurs 8am - Noon Studio Time) at 518-7113; Sheila Fischer (Mon, Tues & Thurs) 1-4pm Studio Time at 865-1099 or Brenda Snyder (Tues 5:30 - 8:30pm Studio Time and Thurs 6-8pm Beginning Hand Building) at 208-2044. Or visit the SPAR website at www.myspar.org and click on the Pottery Classes link.

Youth Programs

A HUGE THANKS to our great Center Managers for their wonderful Black History Month activities with the After-School kids! Also a reminder to parents: open registration for this year's Spring Break Camp begins March 16. Our After-School kids are already signing up and the cut-off date is April 1st (no fooling). Camp hours at each of the 15 centers will be from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, and the facilities will not be open for public use until 4:00 pm. Each center will have different play, athletic, artistic and instructional activities for the kids, who must be between 6 and 12 years of age to register.

SPAR Summer Playground begins the registration for Shreveport residents ONLY on April 13. Open registration will not begin until May 11. Space is on first come first served basis and is usually filled quickly. You don't want your kids to miss out on our summer fun! Summer Playground begins on June 1, 2009.

Upcoming Events

March 16 - Free Haircuts
Mamie Hicks 5:00 - 7:30pm
Ages 6 - 12

March 21 - Community Walk
Hollywood Heights 9:00am

March 31 - Volunteer Training
Wildwood 3:00 - 4:30pm



Click Here To Sign-Up
For Spar E-News

Sign Up for SPAR eNews and updated information today @ www.myspar.org. Keep up with what's happening at SPAR via email.

For all Shreveport/Bossier City events check out:

shreveportbossierfunguide.com

Photo Contest!



SPAR's "Take A Pic, & Win A Tee" photo contest is ongoing. Take a fantastic photo of your family, friends and you enjoying a SPAR facility or event and win a T-shirt! Contest open to all except SPAR employees and their family. Photo must be a 2009 photo and can be of person(s) or thing. Win your t-shirt now!

Email photograph to:
frederick.lewis@shreveportla.gov

Include "Photo Contest" in subject along

Senior Happenings



SPAR's 3rd Annual Masquerade Ball was held on February 19 at Airport Park. Queens were crowned from seven centers. There also were best mask and best costume contests. More than 100 persons enjoyed the festivities. The queens were: Airport Park - Brenda Richardson; A.B. Palmer - Katherine Broussard; Bilberry Park - Maudiest Carten; Bill Cockrell - Ernestine Tyler; David Raines - Wilma Harris; Lakeside - Dianne Wright and Valencia - Gustavia Ware. The best mask and costume winners were Wilma Harris and Ms. Smalley respectively.

The Seniors held Black History Month luncheons and Valentine Receptions. Many fantastic speakers spoke at the different events. Some of the speakers marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., during his visits to Shreveport.

On February 11, 2009, Bilberry Park held a fantastic Health Fair, with 75 people in attendance, along with 14 exhibitors. The attendees received door prizes. The Social Security Administration representative asked for help spreading the word that The Social Security Administration will soon issue Debit Cards rather than paper checks. The Debt Cards can be used in the same places that regular credit cards are accepted, and will speed up the process of the Seniors receiving their monthly payment and reduce paperwork. Also prevents theft of checks from mail boxes.